



The BookMarks Show Notes & Transcript

A Note From The Team: Thank you for checking out the premiere of The BookMarks. This is an improv comedy which means that the actors were given loose episodes and character outlines, but the words and progression are all them!

Cast (In Order Of Appearance):

Virginia Lee (she/her): Marquelle Bookerson

Cody Smith (he/him): Mark Bookerson

Meredith Nudo (she/her): Kennifer “Ken” Bookerson

Crew:

Jade Madison Scott (she/her): Director, Sound Designer

Alex Morgan (she/her): Asst. Director, Outliner

Julia Patrick (she/her) Logo Artist

Introduction

Jade Madison Scott

Hi, I'm Jade Madison Scott the creator of The BookMarks and this is a fun little note from me to you so you know what the heck is going on. The show you're about to listen to, The BookMarks, is an improv comedy. Short outlines were written so the actors would have a plot skeleton to work with but the words, the character choices, that's all them just making it up as they go. And because this is a book podcast that parodies book podcasts I want to make it clear that the authors and books the characters talk about are absolute fiction. Totally made up by the actors on the spot so there's no reason to Google is "blah-de-blah" a real book because it's not. The actors are just so good they'll make you think it is. Alright, that's all I wanted to say so let's get to why you're really here. Please enjoy the show.

[Underscoring: String Quintet in E major, Op. 11, No. 5 (G 275) by Luigi Boccherini]

Scene One

Mark's Living Room- Afternoon

Marquelle

Hey everyone. Welcome to the, the, the, the Bookmarks.

Mark

(mimicking a dubstep drop)

Bookmarks. Bookmarks!

Marquelle

Yes, I love that! This week we will be reviewing The Love That Made Me by Berlin Sohla.

Mark

Yeah, you know, Berlin, uh, a friend of the show and we're really excited to have her on here. Apparently, the book-

Marquelle

We are

Mark

-is like super popular and has-

Marquelle

Yes.

Mark

-been on the bestseller list for seven weeks or something like that.

Marquelle

Seven weeks, guys. That's, it's, it's absolutely swept the nation. A literary giant, if, if I may say, and I do.

Marquelle

But you know, we're here to talk about this beautiful book and, um, I, I'm, I'm so excited because we are going to be having Berlin come on the podcast to talk to us today. Aren't you excited, Mark?

Mark

For some of you that may know a bit of, uh, Mark lore or maybe even perhaps Berlin lore, you may know that in the past we have had a relationship, uh, but that's not at all gonna impact what we're doing here today because, you know, honestly I am past that, like, I'm happy that Berlin is apparently happy. So that's great. That's really cool. Uh-

Marquelle

I mean, you, you must be, because you're, it was your idea to have her on the podcast, which I, I have to say I'm really surprised about. Um, but, but good for you.

Mark

Well, it's cause, you know, I'm just so mature and advanced now, you know?

Marquelle

Good for you.

Mark

If I was kind of, you know, a baser human maybe I wouldn't be able to emotionally take that leap. But you know, personally, Mark Bookerson V2.7-

Marquelle

V2.7?

Mark

Is completely different than whoever Mark was in that relationship in the past.

Marquelle

Clearly.

Mark

We're different people.

Marquelle

Clearly. I mean, I personally, I think that you're, uh, much better off without Berlin. I mean, you, you, you guys, I know, I know you cared about her. I know you saw a future with her, but I think, I think you're doing better now. I mean from a subjective standpoint, I think you're doing better now, but, but also-

Mark

Yeah. Yeah, look, what's a future together if it doesn't happen? We have different futures now. We have different futures we're going to and that's great.

Marquelle

Yes. Yes.

Mark

I'm looking forward to it and I'm happy to have her on the show, so-

Maquelle

Good. Good. Cause I am, I am so excited to talk about this book because girl power women, we must support each other and, and Berlin is an up-and-coming, young, female author and I am here for it. We are gonna talk about the book. We are gonna talk about feminism. We have a whole itinerary plan. Guys, I am so excited to get to this!

Mark

But first, a quick little commercial.

[Underscoring Fades]

Scene Two

Mark's Apartment- Later

Mark

Hey everyone, uh, just wanted to use the ad space this time to kind of share what's on my mind in the form of some slam poetry. Is that, is that cool with you, Marquelle?

Marquelle

Ooh. Yeah. You know, I love poetry and slam poetry is a lot of fun.

Mark

Yeah.

Marquelle

Can't wait to hear what you come up with.

Mark

Yeah. This, this is a little piece I've been working on entitled, A Bird Named Pain.

Marquelle

Oh, okay. All right.

[Underscore: Kevin MacLeod I Knew A Guy]

Mark

A bird....gave a word....and it sang...to me.
The word it was pain, but I feel it's not....free?

[SFX: A Sudden Bongo!]

Who me?

I cryyyyyyyyy in my bed.

[SFX: World-Weary Bongos]

I tryyyyyyyyyyy to relax.

[SFX: World-Weary Bongos]

But every time I...close my eyes, I need
Prozac!

[SFX: A Sudden Bongo!]

Marquelle

Okay?

Mark

No going back!

[SFX: Highly Agressive Bongo Playing]

Marquelle

Oh!

Mark

No flowing back!

Mark

The river, the stream, it flows forward.
How's that?

Marquelle

Are, are you asking-

Mark

A bird gave me a word and the word was paaaaaaaiinnn.

(Pause)

How is that?

Marquelle

Um, It was raw.

Mark

Yeah.

Marquelle

It was raw, for sure, for sure. I, I felt that-

Mark

Lke an uncooked omlette.

Marquelle

Like an uncooked, I mean, that's just scrambled eggs in a bowl, but yes. That, um-

Mark

Straight raw.

Marquelle

Yeah. Uh, the um, the word choices were interesting. Um, I feel like you could have been a little more mono, uh, a little less monosyllabic in that, but I, I, I appreciated, the Prozac threw me for a loop for sure. Was not expecting that

Mark

Well, cause I had to tie it all in.

Marquelle

Yeah.

Mark

You know, I had to speak from the heart.

Marquelle

Yeah. And, and, and that you did that, that you did. Um, good job, bud.

Mark

Yeah. Thanks.

Scene Three
Mark's Apartment

Marquelle

Alright, so this week's book is *The Love That Made Me* by Berlin Sohal.

Mark

Mhmm.

Marquelle

Um, I really liked this book. It's about the journey of a young woman named Paris who is a musician. Uh, she starts out in London on the West Side, and she, uh, struggles in school to become a musician. She wants to learn how to play the flute. It's something that, like her grandmother had played and she wanted to carry on this familial tradition of playing the flute. And so she, she starts taking these lessons, but she's struggling because, uh, she has, um, she has lupus, so she's not really able to like, manipulate the keys very well. And so she's struggling to create this music that's like in her soul, and her hands-

Mark

Mar, Marquelle. Marquelle.

Marquelle

What?

Mark

Marquelle, I feel like you're kind of, you know, missing the real meat of the, the book here, you know, the whole Clark character.

Marquelle

I, I haven't gotten there yet. We're still over in London.

Mark

Right. But that's sort of just preamble. So, why are we still in London?

Marquelle

Well, okay. It's the part of the podcast where we talk about the plot, but okay, so-

Mark

Fine. She's in London.

Marquelle

Yes.

Mark

She struggling to play music and then-

Marquelle

Yes.

Mark

And then, you know, she overcomes and then she moves to New York City. All right. Is that good enough?

Marquelle

Sure, sure. Sounds like you really wanna talk about the Clark bit. So, uh, go ahead.

Mark

Yeah, I, Well, I'd love to hear your take on it. Seems a little, you know, familiar. Doesn't it?

Marquelle

Okay. For our listeners, um, I actually know Berlin Sohal Uh, we've been friends for a few years now. Um, we both took a karate class together a few years ago. I was actually teaching the karate class. She was one of my students. I was her sensei. But anyway, so, um, yeah, we've been, we've been sort of on the periphery of each other's friendship for a minute. And, uh, yeah, I mean-

Mark

And maybe you're forgetting a, a really important part of how you two know each other. You know the fact that she was my girlfriend. For multiple years.

Marquelle

Yeah. I mean, okay, so, so, Berlin and Mark dated for a while and there is this character who is vaguely similar to Mark, I suppose, but those are really some superficial level similarities, like he has the same haircut and he wears the same brand of clothing-

Mark

Superficial?

Marquelle

They're superficial. And you know what? Artists will do that. They will take examples from real life to flesh out characters, and I mean-

Mark

Yeah, maybe a few lines, not entire chapters of my life, and then throwing them on the page. That doesn't seem, you know, maybe a little, a little wrong, and then to, to editorialize to this degree? I mean, uh, take for instance, what was that, uh, chapter 17. Yeah, in chapter 17 where the two of them are arguing on that swing set in Central Park because Paris is upset that, you know, that Clark wants to, to, you know, go tour with his band for a couple months. You know, that doesn't even take into consideration what was actually even going on. I, I, I just feel like, that's, that's not really how it happened. And so to see it like that, that just doesn't seem wrong to you?

Marquelle

I, I mean, I, I vaguely remember you talking about a swing set in Central Park, but I mean, it was, it, it seemed like not an issue. Like you guys were talking, and it wasn't that, I don't remember it being that big of a deal.

Mark

She, she makes me seem like I'm the bad guy in this whole book for wanting to do what? Chase my dreams as well? Like I, I'm some big jerk or something.

Marquelle

Well, I mean, no, I mean-

Mark

Or, or like, I'm, I'm, I'm rich and entitled and stuff. I mean, that whole paragraph where she talks with Suzette, oh yeah. real, real slick about how, you know, Clark's not, not living up to his potential or whatever.

Marquelle

I, I, I-

Mark

What's that about? You know? And, and, and why would neither of them ever talk to me? Did you know about that?

Marquelle

Yeah. There are some similarities, but Clark is also a big jerk. And Clark, you're not a jerk at all. I've known you for years.

Mark

I know. But if you read this book and then you met me, you would think I'm a jerk.

Marquelle

I think a lot of people are.

Mark

Or, or did we, did we not read, like I, I'm not crazy here. I'll put it on my Mother's National Book award. I, I'm not, I'm not. You don't think that the fact that our parents do vaguely similar things and, uh, are invested in the arts in some way, and that they're trying to make, I mean, seriously the next Great American Album and, and in chapter 27-

Marquelle

Yeah, that was rough.

Mark

Where goes into the breakup and it makes it seem like Clark just doesn't care at all about what's happening. Like, like, like, he's just okay with it.

Marquelle

I feel like, maybe, maybe-

Mark

That doesn't, that seems fair to you?

Marquelle

Clark and Paris weren't in the same....season of their love. One was in the spring, one was in the winter, and, and the two ne'er shall meet. Sometimes things just don't work out, and, and-

Mark

But if you read this book, you would think I'm the one who was keeping her from her spring.

Marquelle

The whole, the whole story is, it's like the, the Clark subplot is such a small part of this book, and what was keeping her from her dreams wasn't Clark it was the fact that she had lupus and couldn't play the flute well enough to join the Philharmonic Symphony-

Mark

Alright. You, you wanna talk about this flutist, floutist, whatever? Go, go ahead.

[SFX: Mark's Slides His Chair Back]

Talk about whatever you want cause clearly we're just not on the same page here.

Marquelle

Okay, well-

Mark

Whatever. I'll go check if Berlin's downstairs or whatever. I'll go grab her.

Marquelle

Okay, um,

[SFX: Mark walks to the door and leaves]

While Mark is doing that, um, onto the book some more. Uh, this book has won several awards. It has, it has won a Pulitzer, It has won a silver medallion. It's won a bronze medallion from the Germans, which is crazy because, you know, they don't score high at all. Um, but I think it deserves all of the recognition that it can possibly get because this is a very well written book by a young, female, up-and-coming author, and there are not enough novels written by women in general, but especially about these kinds of difficult personal topics. And I am personally very excited to see how long it'll stay on the New York Times bestseller list. It's already been on there for seven weeks, so. I'm really excited to see where this is going to going, and I'm really excited to talk to Berlin about this book.

[Underscore: String Quintet in E major, Op. 11, No. 5 (G 275) by Luigi Boccherini]

Scene Four

Mark's Apartment-Later

Marquelle

Oh my God. Berlin.

Mark

Welcome to BookMarks.

Marquelle

Welcome, welcome, welcome. Welcome to The Bookmarks.

Mark

(singing)

The Bookmarks. We didn't sing?

Marquelle

(singing)

The BookMarks!

Mark

There it is.

Berlin

(in a posh British accent)

Oh.

Marquelle

It's, I was just, I'm sorry. I was so excited. Thank you so much for coming to talk with us today about your new novel, The Love that Made Me.

Berlin

Thank you so much, Marquelle and Marky. The BookMarks. That means a lot to me. I was just having lunch with Elon Musk and he told me the same thing.

Marquelle

Oh.

Berlin

How impressive it was that I was on the The New York Times bestseller list for seven weeks, but-

Marquelle

Seven weeks!

Berlin

But I told him, and I'm telling you now, it's looking like it's going to be eight.

Mark

Wow.

Marquelle

Here's hoping.

Mark

Wow. Wow. That's amazing. I. I mean, Berlin, I, your, your reach is far. I was just having lunch with, uh, Philip Welcher. That's, from the Wiggles. Do you know about...yeah, great guy, and that guy was even talking about your book. That's how influential you are as an author. You're just worldwide at this point.

Marquelle

You are. You're just, Oh my God. It is, it is such an honor to have you here. Uh, what, what is it like being on the New York Times Best Seller list for seven weeks?

Mark

Please enlighten us.

Berlin

Oh, it's. So exhilarating. Oh, I was just telling my dear friend Ruby Carr, that I, I never would've expected this at all. Just as a, as a little girl running along the, the streets of London that it ever would've come to this.

Marquelle

Oh my God.

Mark

That's beautiful. Love that.

Marquelle

That is beautiful.

Mark

I mean, I, I-

Berlin

I was mudlarking on the, on the. bank of the Thames when I was 10 just picking up old Roman coin, picking up old Roman-

Marquelle

Oh, mudlarking!

Berlin

Just picking up old Roman coins and things. Oh, it was so fun. But I never would've expected that I would become a writer.

Marquelle

Oh God. And what a-

Mark

I thought you said that you wanted to be a writer from....Nevermind. That's unimportant. Uh, Berlin, we're here to talk about your book and-

Marquelle

We are, we are. The Love That Made Me. Oh my God. This, this book-

Mark

I just have to, I have to ask you, Berlin, um, do you have like a process or anything for like how you go about creating characters or anything like that? Like what, what's, what's your process? Berlin? What's your writing process?

Berlin

Oh! You know, uh, severance author Ming La, uh, asked me this just the other day, and it's such a, a wonderful question because, you know, I, we're both big fans of Philip Glass and we, we discussed how he, he describes his music as playing the notes between the notes.

Mark

Mhmm.

Berlin

And we thought, we thought, cause you know, my book is, is not just a novel, it's also got poems throughout and it's a, it's a, it's a poetry novel.

Mark

You always loved poetry.

Berlin

And...and we want to write the words between the words, and that's how I develop my characters.

Marquelle

Oh my God.

Berlin

Yes.

Marquelle

Yes. And you did that. Oh, this. I loved every word of this. This book, this book, dear listeners, this book is so powerful. Berlin, you are a feminist icon, you are everything that I want to be when I grow up.

Berlin

Oh.

Marquelle

I just, I'm just, I'm so happy that you were able here to talk, to be here, to talk to us, cause there, we, we, female authors, we have to stick together because there are not enough women being published right now with these, these young female-centric based off of our actual real life dirty, difficult, scary experiences.

Berlin

You know, I was telling my, my, my mentor, Margaret Atwood-

Marquelle

Ooh-

Berlin

That, you know, it's the same thing. We want to have things that are very raw and deeply personal and they don't, they don't have to, to be these big feminist statements about society. Sometimes these big feminist statements can be...internal. Cause we have rich interior lives. It's not always about our external struggles.

Marquelle

Yes.

Mark

Wow.

Berlin

Yes. Particularly as as Millennial and Gen Z cusp women, our strength is in our vulnerability, not necessarily in our standing up and screaming at the world and writing satires about, uh, our uterus.

Mark

Wow. That's beautiful.

Maqrquelle

It is. It really is.

Berlin

Sometimes-

Mark

You know, Berlin, I, I'm actually, you know, working on a novel myself and, you know, as a, as a feminist, I just feel like, you know, it's really gonna hit a lot of those same notes that you're talking about right now. Um, I think it's really gonna get to the soul of, you know, what we as Gen Z, Millennial cusper are feeling societally.

Marquelle

So, Mark, yeah, tell us about that, uh, that, that....a feminist icon novel. Uh, do you have any, uh, any drafts that we could look at?

Berlin

I'd love to read it. In fact, I, I had, I know a, a sensitivity reader. She goes by, she's mononimic. She goes by Juge.

Marquelle

Juge. Ooh.

Berlin

Juge. She would be so perfect to go over and make sure that even though you are looking at it through a masculine lens that it would still portray women in a very thoughtful-

Marquelle

Yes.

Berlin

And, and complicated light.

Marquelle

Yes. I, I, as, as we all know, it's, it's difficult for men to write women in a realistic way, So this is a great resource for you, Mark.

Berlin

I would love that. Yes. Great job, Marky. I'm so proud of you.

Mark

I mean, I'd love, I'd love to use, you know, Juge was the name?

Berlin

Juge.

Mark

Juge?

Berlin

Juge.

Mark

Juge.

Berlin

Juge.

Mark

Okay. Uh, I personally feel though, you know, that, you know, I have it, I have it totally handled right. Like I'll, I'll be fine. I've done my reading, done my research, and honestly, you know, Berlin, I think it's from the time that I spent with you that I just learned so much about what it means to, to write women believably. In fact, you know, I, I wonder, did you maybe feel the same at all? Did you maybe learn to write men from your time with me?

(Beat)

Berlin

I, I learned to write men by interacting with men...on multiple occasions and in, in multiple contexts, so-

Mark

Mhm. Mhmm. I, I actually wanna talk about one of those, those men that you wrote in, in this book. Um, you know, the character, Clark, just really, really stood out to me.

Berlin

Oh.

Mark

You know, really, just 10 toes down, full off the page.

Berlin

Huh.

Mark

How, how,

Marquelle

Yeah, Clark was a very interesting character, very three dimensional.

Mark

How did you come up with that character?

Berlin

It's, he, he, um, Clark is...a man.

Mark

Hmm.

Marquelle

That he is. That he is.

Berlin

Yes. Clark is definitely, he, um-

Mark

In your life, if you had to pick someone that Clark was like the closest parallel to of all the people that, and, you know, you've met so many wonderful, famous people. If you just had to pick someone in your life that Clark reminded you of, who would you pick, Berlin?

(Beat)

Berlin

Well, Clark is, is a lot...of different people. So he's a, he's a composite.

(With an aggressive emphasis)

He's a composite.

Mark

Okay, and, and a composite, who would, who would the main, the main ingredient that composite be?

Berlin

(with fake airy laughter)

Oh, I don't know-

Mark

Maybe someone who were in a relationship with?

Berlin

Oh, that's so many different-

Mark

How many relationships have you been in in your life?

Marquelle

Oh, wait a minute.

Mark

How many long term ones?

Berlin

This is a very difficult conversation to be having because I just broke up with Chris Hemsworth. So-

Mark

You were dating Chris Hemsworth? Really?

Berlin

Oh, only for couple of, I'm only, only for a couple of weeks. Only for a couple of weeks. It wasn't serious, but it still hurts. It always hurts. But I-

Mark

Oh, well, your relationship that you wrote between Paris and Clark, that that seemed pretty serious. Any serious relationships you've been in, maybe with someone whose name is similar to Clark, maybe it rhymes? Ringing any bells?

Mark

It's possible that.....unknowingly, uh, some.....aspects of....my life with.....a partner of mine may have.....slipped into the character unknowingly, um, but....it was not my intention to inherently reflect someone on a completely one-to-one level. I, I'm surprised you're so hung up on Clark, considering he's only in 75 pages of a 500 page story.

Mark

Maybe I'm hung up on Clark because Clark is literally me, Berlin. Maybe you literally wrote me in the book. Maybe that's word for word, bar for bar, page for page 75 times over just me. I mean, is that how you see me as, as Clark, Berlin? As some, some egotistical, conceited, jerk? Is that how I come across to you?

Berlin

Not-

Mark

We were together for multiple years and, and that's, that was your biggest takeaway was 75 pages of, quite frankly, what seemed to be an unfulfilling relationship.

Berlin

Not everything about Clark was necessarily you. However, it is possible that some of the frustrations that I was experiencing in my life at the time while I was writing the novel end up in the page. Um, I was trying to be thoughtful and vulnerable and it's possible-

Mark

Mhmm.

Berlin

That I used writing-

Mark

Mhmm.

Berlin

To some extent as therapy. Uh, given that, of course, at the time I was not with a very gratifying therapist. Um-

Mark

I mean, Berlin, we don't have to beat around the bush here, Clark. You change the "Cl", You make it an "M"

Berlin

We can-

Mark

What do you get?

Marquelle

Okay, guys, guys-

Berlin

(full of loathing)

Mark, Marky. I know how spelling works, Marky.

Mark

You get Mark? Yeah. M-A-R-K. You can cut the Y, you can cut, you don't even need to Marky. It's Mark. It's Mark. That's the name my mother gave me. You call him Clarky? No, you call him Clark.

Berlin

Mark. Okay-

Mark

So, what you just, you just make a character about me and then what? You just gotta try to make me believe that I'm crazy for thinking that-

Berlin

(overlapping)

I had some things I needed to work out and Clark was a good way for me to, kind of try and, and, and figure out what it was like to, to waste so much of my time with someone who talked and talked and talked about all of these wonderful things that he would and could do.

Marquelle

Okay. We're getting, We're getting, offtopic-

Berlin

And never did them.

Mark

Wow. Wow, Wow. So there we, there we, There it is. Right. There it is. Now we cut to it. Now we get to how you really feel, Berlin. Now we're really there. So you, you think I'm just what? Wasting. Wasting all my time. When really I was trying to focus on you. To focus on our relationship, but I'm bad because I, that's what I was doing with my time was I was thinking about you, but clearly you weren't thinking about me at all, right. Cause I'm only 75 of the pages. You were thinking about 950 pages worth of other material that I was really going on in your life-

Marquelle

Guys, come on, please-

Mark

Oh, I'm sorry, Marky. I didn't realize that my life began and ended with you. Oh, I shall turn this into a novella instead.

Mark

Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't realize that I meant nothing to you. I'm sorry. That's what I didn't realize.

Berlin

Oh, I sorry, so-

Mark

Cause if I had known that maybe I would've broken up with you, maybe I would've ended the relationship much sooner. Maybe I wouldn't have invested so much of my time and effort and, and energy in you, if you were just gonna end it all-

Berlin

So, so, so let me-

Marquelle

No. No. No. So, I am making an executive decision and I'm going to turn this off and we are going to step aside and we are going to breathe, and then we will come back and then we will talk about this. Okay?

Marquelle

So, while everybody I'm looking at both of you catches a breath, I'm gonna turn this off. We'll be right back after these messages.

[SFX: Recorder Click]

Scene Five

Mark's Apartment- Much Earlier

[Undescoring: Divertissement by Kevin MacLeod]

Mark

Wait, wait, wait. Real quick. Marquelle can you, can you go first? I have a funny thing to say, I think.

Marquelle

Sure, sure. Hello, I'm Marquelle Bookerson.

Mark

I'm Mark Bookerson. We switched the order because today, this episode all about the women.

(Pause)

Well, that's the commercial.

Marquelle

That's the commercial. All right. Back to our regularly scheduled programming.

[Undescoring Fades]

Scene Six

Mark's Apartment-Present

Mark

I'm not apologizing. I'm not apologizing. Stop, so. stop looking at me like I should apologize. Marquelle.

Berlin

I....I think that the reason why you shouldn't apologize is because after taking a breather, thank you, Marquelle, it was appreciated, I realized that I....was.....wrong and I should be the one to apologize. I'm, I'm, first off, I'm sorry that I-

Mark

Berlin, Berlin, you don't need to go through all these apologizes. I just need to know is that how you see me, genuinely?

Berlin

It was the way that I saw you through the lens of the hurt that I felt at the conclusion of our relationship, but it is not how I see you as a full person.

Mark

Look, I think that you're gonna do big things and you've already done big things, and I just I didn't wanna be small in the life of someone who I know is gonna be so big. So, um, I'm, I'm sorry. I'm, I'm, I, I, I blew up on you and that's not cool. That's not okay. You can't do that. And it's super not feminist also.

Berlin

This is not necessarily the place to be hashing all of our personal thoughts and experiences, but I would love to take you out for a cup of fair trade, handpicked, coffee and discuss this and start over at square one.

Mark

I appreciate that. I don't know if I'm gonna be able to grab coffee soon because, um, yeah, this was a lot. I'm tender.

Berlin

No, that's fine. It's, I know, it's not on you to accept or deny my apology, but I did want to take ownership of my mistake, and it is something that I hope to learn from in my future as a writer of poetry novels who is on the New York Times bestseller list for eight weeks going on nine.

[SFX: Berlin's Phone Vibrates]

Marquelle

You have to get back to it, don't you, Berlin?

Berlin

Oh, oh, yes.

Marquelle

We can only get some limited time. Yeah. The-

Berlin

Yes, I've got that lecture at the Guggenheim.

Marquelle

The Guggenheim.

Berlin

It has been so wonderful.

Marquelle

Yep.

Berlin

To, to speak with you both. We'll talk.

Marquelle

Thank you so much.

Mark

And, uh, Berlin if you wanna come back on and give the book, you know, a real honest shot and review. Um, genuinely, I think I speak for both of us when I say we'd love to have you.

Berlin

I think I speak for my self when I say I would love to return Thanks to you both.

Mark

Yeah.

Berlin

Cheers.

[SFX: Berlin stands and leaves the apartment]

Mark

Is that a British thing? They say cheers when they leave. I didn't,

Marquelle

I I mean, I don't-

Maark

I've never heard that before from her, so that's.....a new thing.

Marquelle

Uh, anyway, uh, that was, that was intense, Mark. That was an intense-

Mark

I feel like-

Marquelle

Recording session.

Mark

-When children have temper tantrums, but not the act of having the temper tantrum the level of exhaustion you feel after it.

Marquelle

Oh yeah, yeah. Oh my God. That, But you know what-

Mark

Like, like someone just broke my Iron Man toy and I'm just not gonna recover from that anytime soon.

Marquelle

Oh. You know, it was really brave of you to not only, invite her onto the podcast after all of this, but to, to have this conversation and to forgive her and to let her go like that. I mean, that's big man.

Mark

Yeah. I, I can't lie when I invited her. Purely petty. But I guess I'm happy that we, um, I'm happy that we did this because, uh, yeah....I might not be over her yet, but, um, at least I'm on the road.

Marquelle

Yeah. You're on the road.

Mark

Yeah. Least I'm, I'm on the road driving my two door sedan-

Marquelle

With the top down.

Mark

It gets great mileage because it's got a top down and it's half electric and in this economy, that's amazing, you know?

Marquelle

Yeah, I know.

Mark

Yeah.

Marquelle

Yeah.

Mark

Let's, uh, let's wrap this up, guys. Thank you for joining us on this episode of The Bookmarks,

Marquelle
(singing)

Thank you so much for joining us on The BookMarks.

Mark

It's great always having you.

Marquelle

As always-

Mark
(singing)

The BookMarks.

Marquelle

We will return next week with another hot, hot, hot title. Be sure to catch it. Catch us on socials and we'll see you next week.

Closing

Cody Smith

Starring the vocal talents of Mark Bookerson as Cody Smith

Virginia Lee

Marquelle Bookerson played by Virginia Lee.

Meredith Nudo

Berlin Sohal played by Meredith Nudo

Virginia Lee

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